

ducers on Gild Socialist or any other lines,
not only
because the self-governing workshop has, in
Britain, always
failed, and must always fail but on larger,
philosophical
grounds To make the "processes of production
of useful
commodities and services the basis of our
social organisation
tion³³ is, really, to allow the mind to be
perverted by
Capitalist error subdued to what it works
in Work
is not the end of life, but the means to it

" Equity demands that every adult without
exception should
put into the common stock of commodities and
services at least
the equivalent of what he consumes, in order
that the world
may not be the poorer for his presence "

But,

"In any rationally organised community, this price
should
progressively diminish "

As for the part of time and effort devoted to
"paying the
price,³³

"this must be determined not by what the
producer chooses, but
by what the consumers desire "

Consumption is the pivot, the originating
force, whether
what is consumed is bread and butter or the
higher pleasures
From this point of view, then, they look at the
Co-operative
Movement, and take it very seriously as "one of
the principal
elements in the State of Tomorrow " In
general indeed,
their sense of the broad social significance of
consumption
is one of the keynotes of their work, it is from
this point
of view, as an exposition of this, that *The
Consumers' Co-
operative Movement* occupies so important a
place in the
great series of their published books It is

one that must
be read and, in its latter part, will be read,
with real
mental stimulation

Easy reading they are not, however, any of them; much less easy, for instance, than the Trade Union books. The art of helping the student by establishing a compulsive